

WI-462

1935

Thomas H. Mitchell, Jr. House

Salisbury

Private

This finely detailed neo-Federal brick dwelling was designed by Salisbury architect Wilson Booth for Thomas H. Mitchell, Jr. and his wife Margaret R. Mitchell. Following a traditional architectural form for the region with a side entrance two-story, three-bay by one room main block, the brick exterior is finished in a particularly high level of intricate detail. The front entrance is enhanced by a gable roofed pediment that incorporates an unusual shell carved recess over the door. The pediment is enriched with modillion blocks and as well as a finely carved bed molding. To each side of the door are fluted pilasters that rise to frieze blocks embellished with carved oval medallions. The south facade is further distinguished by even rows of eight-over-eight sash windows and a highly intricate boxed cornice. Tapered modillion blocks and a Wall-of-Troy bed molding accent the boxed cornice, which incorporates a built-in gutter. The ends of the main block as well as the story-and-a-half wing are dominated by exterior brick chimneys featuring corbelled bases.

Thomas H. Mitchell, Jr., proprietor of the Salisbury Brick Company, financed construction of this well-designed dwelling on the former Jackson family estate known as "The Oaks," which was subdivided following the destruction of the sprawling Jackson house.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. WI-462

1. Name of Property

(indicate preferred name)

historic Thomas H. Mitchell, Jr. House

other

2. Location

street and number 507 Park Avenue

not for publication

city, town Salisbury

vicinity

county Wicomico

3. Owner of Property

(give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Jonathan D. Isett

street and number 507 Park Avenue

telephone 410-749-8077

city, town Salisbury

state MD

zip code 21801

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court

tax map and parcel Map 104, Map 935

city, town Salisbury, Maryland

liber 1684

folio 401

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- Contributing Resource in National Register District
☒ **Contributing Resource in Local Historic District**
 Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
 Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
 Recorded by HABS/HAER
 Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
 Other:

6. Classification

| Category | Ownership | Current Function | Resource Count | |
|---------------|-----------|--------------------|--|-----------------|
| | | | Contributing | Noncontributing |
| district | public | agriculture | | |
| x building(s) | x private | commerce/trade | 1 | buildings |
| structure | both | defense | | sites |
| site | | x domestic | | structures |
| object | | education | | objects |
| | | funerary | | Total |
| | | government | | |
| | | health care | | |
| | | industry | | |
| | | landscape | | |
| | | recreation/culture | | |
| | | religion | | |
| | | social | | |
| | | transportation | | |
| | | work in progress | | |
| | | unknown | | |
| | | vacant/not in use | | |
| | | other: | | |
| | | | Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory | |

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Name Thomas H. Mitchell, Jr. House
Continuation Sheet

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7. Description

Inventory No. WI-462

Condition

| | | |
|---|-----------|--------------|
| | excellent | deteriorated |
| x | good | ruins |
| | fair | altered |

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Thomas H. Mitchell, Jr. house is located at 507 Park Avenue in Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland. Built on a slight knoll, the two-story, side hall/parlor brick house faces south with the gable roof oriented on an east/west axis. The house stands on the former Jackson estate known as "The Oaks."

Built in 1935, the two-story, three-bay brick house is supported on a brick foundation, and the side hall/parlor house is covered by a medium pitched slate roof. Attached to the east gable end is story-and-a-half wing. The entire house is painted white.

The south facade of the three-bay main block is defined by a side entrance and flanking eight-over-one sash windows. The raised six-panel door is framed by an elaborate neo-Federal surround with fluted pilasters rising to a gable roofed pediment enriched with a modillion block cornice and a finely carved dentil block bed molding. In lieu of a transom, the area over the door and under the pediment is filled with a carved shell recess framed by a round arched surround. The doorway has raised panel reveals as well. The adjacent eight-over-eight sash windows are fitted with molded surrounds and raised panel shutters. The second floor is lighted by three eight-over-eight sash windows of slightly smaller dimensions than the first floor openings. The windows are framed by molded surrounds and flanked by louvered shutters. The base of the roof is finished with a delicately crafted modillion block cornice not unlike the cornice executed on the Wailes Law Office at 116 East Main Street. The boxed cornice includes an interior gutter system, and the cornice is underpinned by a row of tapered blocks. A secondary Wall-of-Troy molding stretches across beneath the modillion blocks.

The west gable end is dominated by an exterior chimney stack with a corbelled base. The chimney is flanked on each floor by eight-over-eight sash windows on the first and second stories. Quarter round windows with web-pattern muntins light the attic. The gable end is flush and trimmed with a molded bargeboard.

The east gable end is largely covered by the story-and-a-half wing, which is three bays across by one room deep. A shed roofed porch with square posts and segmental arches between them shelters a center door and flanking six-over-six sash windows. The windows retain raised panel shutters. The half story is defined by a pair of gable roofed dormers that interrupt the roofline and are fitted with six-over-six sash windows. A small window flanked with louvered shutters pierces the half story between the dormers.

(Continued)

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The east gable end of the wing is dominated by an exterior brick chimney featuring a corbelled base and a slightly corbelled cap. Above the wing and piercing the gable end of the main block is a round arched attic window. The gable end is flush and finished with a molded bargeboard.

The interior was not seen.

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8. Significance

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| Period | Areas of Significance | Check and justify below | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| 1600-1699 | agriculture | economics | health/medicine | performing arts |
| 1700-1799 | archeology | education | industry | philosophy |
| 1800-1899 | architecture | engineering | invention | politics/government |
| x 1900-1999 | art | entertainment/ recreation | landscape architecture | religion |
| 2000- | commerce | ethnic heritage | law | science |
| | communications | exploration/ settlement | literature | social history |
| | community planning | | maritime history | transportation |
| | conservation | | military | other: |
| Significance dates | | Architect | Wilson Booth | |
| Specific dates | 1935 | Builder | | |

Evaluation for:

National Register

☒ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

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9. Major Bibliographical References

WI-462

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of project area

Acreage surveyed

Quadrangle name Salisbury

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

11. Form Prepared by

name/title Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian

organization Private Consultant

street & number P. O. Box 5

city or town Westover, Maryland 21871

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032
410-514-7600

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HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Eastern Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period(s): Modern Period 1930-1999

Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture

Resource Type: Standing Structure

Category: House

Historic Environment: Residential District

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Domestic

Known Design Source:

WI-462
Thomas H. Mitchell, Jr. House
507 Park Avenue
Salisbury
Chain of title

Map 104, Parcel 935

1684/401

John W. T. Weise

to

6/7/1999

Jonathan D. Isett

Item One: Lots 9, 10, and 11 in Block No. 1 on a plat
of "The Oaks-South Section" September 1926,
JCK 146/1

1305/132

Betty Mae Powell

Ralph W. Powell, Jr.

to

9/1/1992

John W. T. Weise

\$145,000

MSB 1207/795

Betty Mae Powell

Victor H. Laws, Personal Representatives of
Margaret R. Mitchell, deceased

to

1/22/1990

Betty Mae Powell

Ralph W. Powell, Jr.

Items One, Lots, 9, 10, and 11 in Block No. 1, "The
Oaks," September 1926, JCK 146/1

Being the same lands acquired by the said Margaret R.
Mitchell by three following deeds:

1. IDT 191/10, 12/17/1934
2. JWS 233/291, 4/17/1941 from the Oaks Development
Company
3. JWTS 357/25, 7/1/1954, from Charles E. Hearne, Jr.

501 NW
HEBRON

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

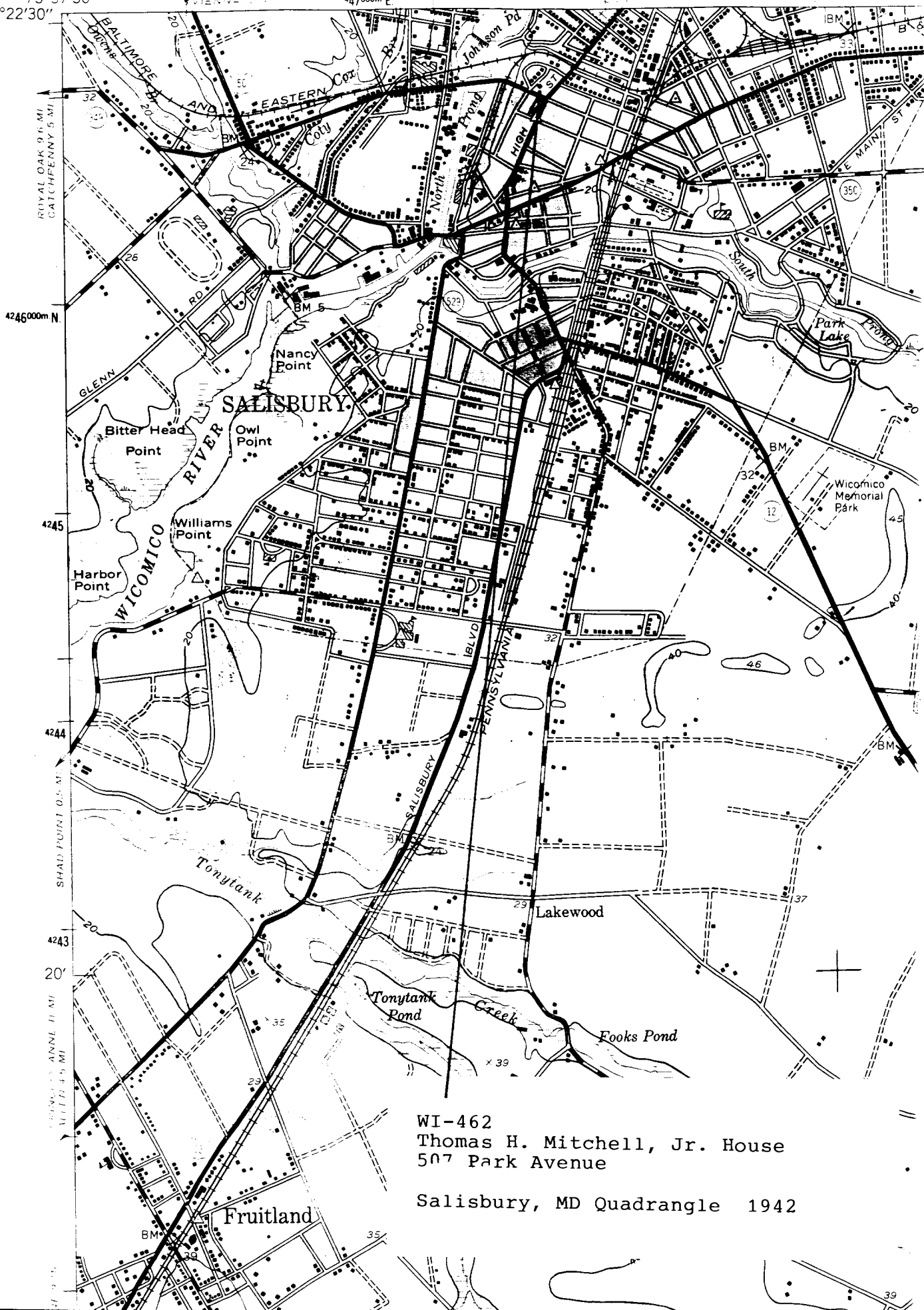
75°37'30"
38°22'30"

CAMBRIDGE 31 MI
VIENNA 15 MI

447000m E

LAUREL 13 MI
DELMAR 6 MI

35'



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Thomas H. Mitchell, Jr. House
507 Park Avenue

Salisbury, MD Quadrangle 1942



